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## WriteProtect™ Desktop User's Manual



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Version: 1.02  
Date: 07/17/15  
MAN-WP-DESKTOP

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## **Logicube Technical Support Contact Information**

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1. By website: [www.logicube.com](http://www.logicube.com)
2. By email: [techsupport@logicube.com](mailto:techsupport@logicube.com)
3. By telephone: 1 - (818) 700 8488 ext. 3 between the hours of 7am – 5pm PST, Monday through Friday, excluding U.S. legal holidays.

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## 1: Introduction

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### 1.0 Introduction to the WriteProtect DESKTOP

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The WriteProtect™ DESKTOP write-blocker provides secure, read-only, write-blocked access to SAS, SATA, USB 3.0, FireWire™, and PATA/IDE (PATA/IDE supported with an adapter) suspect hard drives. Extremely fast performance is powered by a SuperSpeed USB 3.0 host connection to easily manage large capacity hard drives. The WriteProtect DESKTOP is the only portable write-blocker on the market that provides support for 5 different storage technologies in one compact device. Logicube, a pioneer in the digital forensic industry, delivers an easy to use, reliable and professional forensic write-blocking solution.



## 1.1 Features

- The standalone WriteProtect DESKTOP features a compact size at 7.9" x 5.3" x 2.3". An "all-in-one" device to meet all your write-blocking needs in the field or lab!
- SuperSpeed USB 3.0 host connection for extremely fast operations
- Built-in, read-only, write-blocked support for SAS/SATA/USB 3.0/2.0/1.1/FW400/800 storage technologies, an adapter is included to support 2.5"/3.5" PATA/IDE drives
- Multiple source drives can be connected to the WriteProtect and imaged, using your forensic imaging software, simultaneously to shorten processes
- Features 2 SAS/SATA drive ports, 1 USB 3.0 port, 1 FireWire port, 1 Gigabit Ethernet port
- Support for IDE, 1.8" IDE, 1.8" ZIF, mSATA, microSATA, eSATA and flash media is available using optional adapters
- Use the browser-based user interface to manage all WriteProtect operations including software updates. Connect to your network using the WriteProtect's Gigabit Ethernet port
- Preview drives connected to WriteProtect using the browser-based user interface
- HPA/DCO detection and capture supported via the browser-based user interface
- 5 LEDs for power, host, device, activity, HPA/DCO detection allow you to easily monitor functions
- Compatible with forensic acquisition and analysis software

## 1.2 Specifications

Power Requirements	Power Supply Voltage (DC IN)	Output Voltage (DC OUT)	Net Weight	Dimensions	Agency Approvals
72 watts (including 2 hard drives plus 1 hard drive using a USB 3 to SATA adapter)	+12V DC @ 12.5A	+5V DC @ 2.5A, +12V DC @ 2.5A	2.0 lbs 0.90kg	7.87" X 5.37" X 2.37" (L) (W) (H)  19.1cm X 13.6cm X 6.0cm	RoHS compliant

## 1.3 In the Box

The following items are included with WriteProtect DESKTOP:

- Power supply & power cord
- 2 SAS/SATA power & data cables
- 1 FireWire cable
- 1 Micro USB 3.0 cable (A Male to Micro-B Male)
- 1 Cat 6 network cable
- 1 2.5"/3.5" IDE to SATA adapter



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## 1.4 Additional Options

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The following options are available for the WriteProtect DESKTOP:

- eSATA cable
- mSATA adapter
- Flash media reader for compact flash, SD cards and other flash media
- 1.8" IDE to SATA adapter
- 1.8" IDE ZIF to SATA adapter
- 1.8" microSATA adapter



- Avoid dropping the Logicube WriteProtect DESKTOP or subjecting it to sharp jolts. When in use, place it on a flat surface.
- Keep the unit dry. If the WriteProtect DESKTOP needs to be cleaned, use a lightly damp, lint free cloth. Avoid using soap or other cleaning agents particularly those containing bleach, ammonia, alcohol or other harsh chemicals.
- Do not attempt to service or open the WriteProtect DESKTOP. Doing so may void the warranty. If the unit requires service, please contact Logicube Technical Support for assistance.



**Special Icons** – Throughout this manual, there are two icons that can be seen. Please pay close attention when any of these two icons are found. These icons highlight additional information or important warnings on specific topics.

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## 2: Getting Started

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### 2.0 Overview of the WriteProtect DESKTOP

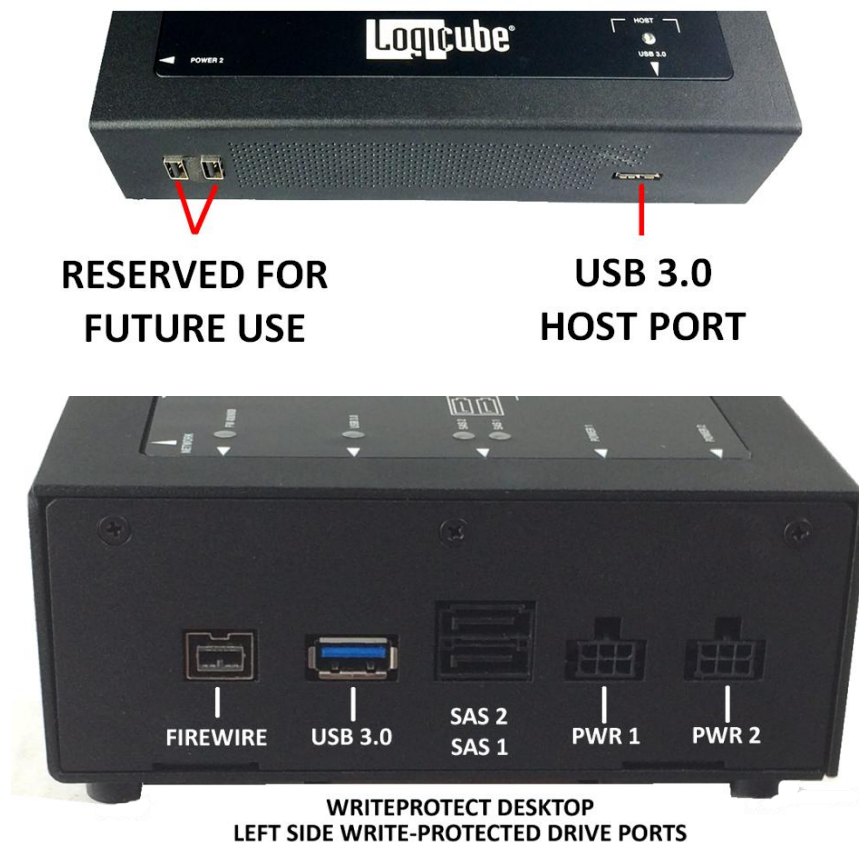
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**WriteProtect™ DESKTOP  
FRONT/TOP VIEW**



## WriteProtect DESKTOP FRONT VIEW



### 2.1 Turning WriteProtect DESKTOP On and Off

The WriteProtect DESKTOP comes with a 12V, 12.5A (output DC) power supply that connects to the back of the device. Attach the included power supply to the WriteProtect DESKTOP's DC power port in the back. The WriteProtect DESKTOP will turn on automatically. The Power LED will start blinking as the WriteProtect DESKTOP turns on. After 30 seconds, the Power LED will stop blinking and turn solid (lit up). The WriteProtect DESKTOP is now ready to be used.

There are two ways of turning the WriteProtect DESKTOP off:

1. Press and immediately release the power button on the top of the WriteProtect DESKTOP. The Power LED will start blinking as the WriteProtect DESKTOP begins to shut down. The Power LED and the fans will turn off within 30 seconds. When the Power LED turns off, the WriteProtect DESKTOP has fully shut down.
2. Using the Graphical User Interface (GUI) via a browser through a remote connection, navigate to the **Power Off** screen and click the **Power Off** icon. The Power LED will start blinking as the WriteProtect DESKTOP begins to shut down. The Power LED and the fans will turn off within 30 seconds. When the Power LED turns off, the WriteProtect DESKTOP has fully shut down.

## 2.2 Connecting various drive types

Cables and adapters are available for the following drive types:

- SAS
- SATA
- USB
- FireWire
- 2.5" and 3.5" PATA/IDE
- eSATA cable (optional)
- mSATA adapter (optional)
- Flash media reader for compact flash, SD cards and other flash media (optional)
- 1.8" IDE to SATA adapter (optional)
- 1.8" IDE ZIF to SATA adapter (optional)
- 1.8" microSATA adapter (optional)

Drives connect to the left side of the WriteProtect DESKTOP.



**WRITEPROTECT DESKTOP  
LEFT SIDE WRITE-PROTECTED DRIVE PORTS**

The SAS/SATA cable must be matched with the SAS and Power (PWR) ports. For example, SAS 1 goes with PWR 1 and SAS 2 goes with PWR 2.



Drives do not have to be connected in any order. For example, a single SATA drive does not have to be connected to the SAS/SATA S1 port. It can be connected to the SAS/SATA S2 port without having anything connected to the S1 port.

Any combination of drives can be connected at the same time, up to 4 drives connecting to all available ports.

## 2.3 Using USB/FireWire/eSATA Enclosures or External Drives

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When using drives that came from a USB, FireWire, or eSATA enclosure, or external drives, it is highly recommended to leave the drive inside the enclosure. USB enclosures typically have an on-board controller that may be necessary to read the drive properly. Taking the drive out of the enclosure could cause any device (including computers) not to read the drive contents properly.

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## 2.4 LEDs

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The WriteProtect DESKTOP has seven (7) LEDs:

**DRIVE LEDs (FW 400/800, USB 3.0, SAS 2, SAS 1)** – For FireWire, USB, SAS/SATA 2, and SAS/SATA 1

- **On** – Detects a drive connected on the corresponding port
- **Blinking** – Detects activity on the corresponding port
- **Off** - No drive is detected on the corresponding port

**POWER** – Power LED

- **On** – The WriteProtect is powered on
- **Blinking** – This LED will blink while the WriteProtect is being turned ON or OFF
- **Off** - The WriteProtect is turned off

**HOST** – Detects a link connection between the WriteProtect and the host computer

- **On** – Detects an active link between the WriteProtect and host computer
- **Off** – There is no active link between the WriteProtect and host computer

**HPA/DCO** – HPA and/or DCO detection

- **On** – Detects the presence of an HPA and/or DCO on the connected drive
- **Off** – Does not detect the presence of an HPA and/or DCO on the connected drive

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## 3: Quick Start

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### 3.0 Quick Start Guide

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This chapter gives a basic overview and steps on how to set up the WriteProtect DESKTOP.

Three steps must be performed to use the WriteProtect DESKTOP:

- Turn the WriteProtect DESKTOP on
- Connect a USB 3.0 A to Micro B cable between the computer and the WriteProtect DESKTOP's host port located on the front panel
- Connect at least one drive to the WriteProtect DESKTOP

**Optional:** Connect the WriteProtect DESKTOP to a network using a Cat5e or Cat6 network cable for remote connectivity to be able to use the built-in file browsing capabilities, configure, or update the software of the WriteProtect DESKTOP.

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### 3.1 Registry Optimization

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Logicube recommends a registry entry to optimize the USB 3.0 transfer speeds for windows 7 and Windows 8/8.1.

The registry entries can be downloaded from:

[http://updates.logicube.com/WriteProtectOptimization/WriteProtect\\_Optimization.zip](http://updates.logicube.com/WriteProtectOptimization/WriteProtect_Optimization.zip)

Extract the contents of the ZIP file to a folder on your computer. You should see two files:

- Logicube\_WriteProtect\_Optimization\_Win7.reg
- Logicube\_WriteProtect\_Optimization\_Win8.reg



**Microsoft recommends backing up the registry and any important/valued data before making any changes to the registry.**

To import the optimization registry entry:

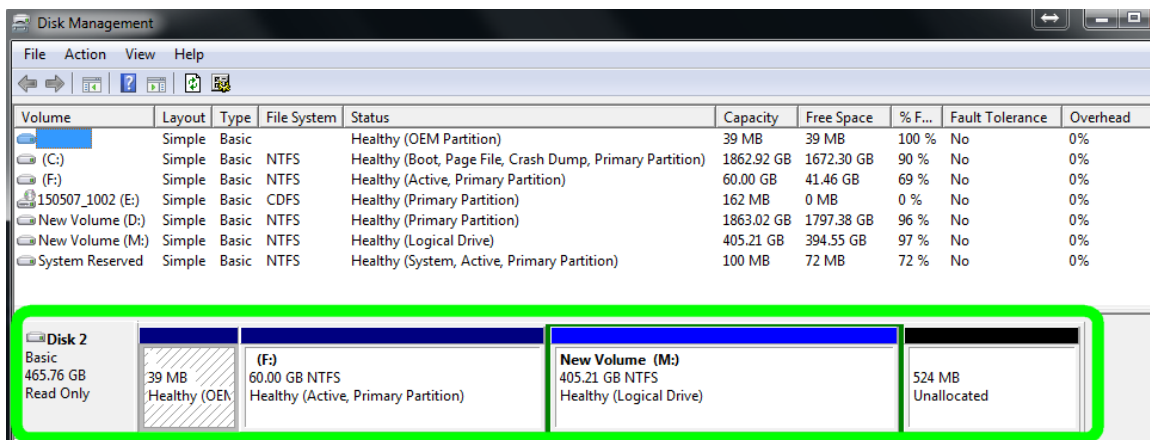
1. Make sure you are logged in to a Windows 7 or 8/8.1 computer on an account with administrator rights
2. Double-click the appropriate registry file  
(Logicube\_WriteProtect\_Optimization\_Win7.reg for Windows 7 computers and Logicube\_WriteProtect\_Optimization\_Win8.reg for Windows 8/8.1 computers).

3. Windows should prompt you asking if you are sure you want to allow the program (the registry file) to make changes to your computer. Select Yes. You may also be prompted with a warning about adding information to the registry may cause components to stop working correctly. Please select Yes to continue adding the registry entry.
4. When the registry entry has been imported, you should see a confirmation window stating it has been successfully added to the registry. Once successfully added, we recommend restarting the computer.

## 3.2 Connected Drives

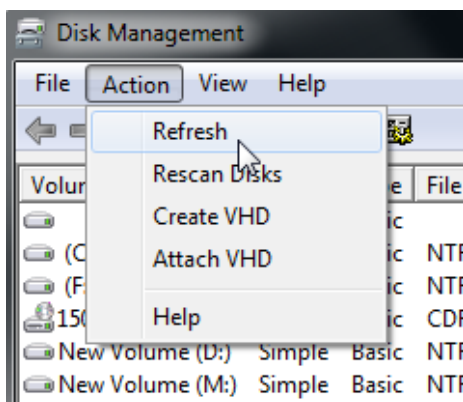
Depending on the Operating System on the computer, drives connected to the WriteProtect DESKTOP may or may not be automatically mounted. Windows should automatically assign a drive letter to partitions that it can recognize.

Disk Management will show the drives as “Read Only”:



If at least one drive is already connected and a second, third, or fourth drive is added, Windows may not automatically detect the added drives. It is recommended to go to **Disk Management**, click **Action**, then click **Refresh**.

When drives are disconnected, refreshing **Disk Management** may also be required to refresh the list of connected drives.





It is not recommended to disconnect the USB host cable while the WriteProtect DESKTOP is turned on as Windows may be accessing a connected drive.



FireWire drives may not be seen by the computer when the FireWire drive is already connected to the WriteProtect DESKTOP before the WriteProtect DESKTOP is turned on.

If FireWire drives are not detected, disconnect the FireWire drive from the WriteProtect DESKTOP, wait a few seconds, then re-connect the FireWire drive.



HPA/DCO can be managed and configured through the web browser interface (additional information TBD). Third party tools can always be used to manage HPA/DCO.



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## 4: Remote Connectivity

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### 4.0 Introduction

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The WriteProtect DESKTOP comes with a gigabit network connection in the back of the unit. Connecting the WriteProtect DESKTOP to a network allows remote access from any computer within the same network using a supported Internet browser (Chrome or Firefox).

The WriteProtect DESKTOP is configured for DHCP

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### 4.1 Connecting to the Web Interface

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Using a supported web browser, go to the WriteProtect DESKTOP's hostname. The hostname will be: <http://wp-XXXXXX> where XXXXXX is the 6 digit serial number of the WriteProtect DESKTOP. The IP address can be found on a sticker underneath the WriteProtect DESKTOP. The WriteProtect DESKTOP's web interface will appear on the browser screen.



On some browsers or Operating Systems, the WriteProtect DESKTOP will need to be accessed by browsing to <http://wp-XXXXXX.local/>.

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### 4.2 Usage

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The web interface can be used for built-in file browsing capabilities, configuration, or software updates for the WriteProtect DESKTOP. The built-in file browser can recognize many different file systems and can be a useful tool when the computer being used does not have the ability to see the connect drive's file system or contents. See **Section 5: Using the Web Interface** for details on the web interface.

## 5: Using the Web Interface

### 5.0 Introduction

The Web Interface allows the user to update the software (and firmware) of the WriteProtect DESKTOP. It can also be used to configure advanced settings for the device. The following sections give a brief explanation of each screen on the web interface.

### 5.1 USB Device




This screen has three tabs: *Drives*, *HPA/DCO*, and *Exports*.



**DRIVES** – This screen allows the user to see basic information about drives connected to the device. The **More Info** icon shows additional information about the drive.

**HPA/DCO** – This screen displays the HPA and DCO sizes for each connected drive.

**EXPORTS** – This screen has a  **RE-ENGAGE USB** button which resets the USB connection without having to physically disconnect and re-connect the USB cable between the WriteProtect DESKTOP and the computer.

## 5.2 File Browser



The contents of all connected drives can be previewed using the WriteProtect DESKTOP's file browser. The file browser will show the partitions and the contents of each partition. Note that only some files can be opened by the file browser. Files opened by the file browser will not alter the drive in any way.

The file browser can be useful for file systems that cannot be recognized by the computer's Operating System (for example, EXT4 file systems can be viewed using the file browser if it cannot be viewed by Windows).



If a file cannot be previewed, the following message will appear:

File viewer cannot view file type:

## 5.3 Write Protect Statistics



This will display two tabs: **About WriteProtect** and **Adv. Drive Statistics**.

The **About** screen will show information about the WriteProtect DESKTOP including the current software installed.

The **Adv. Drive Statistics** tab displays S.M.A.R.T. information taken directly from what the drive is reporting.

## 5.4 System Settings



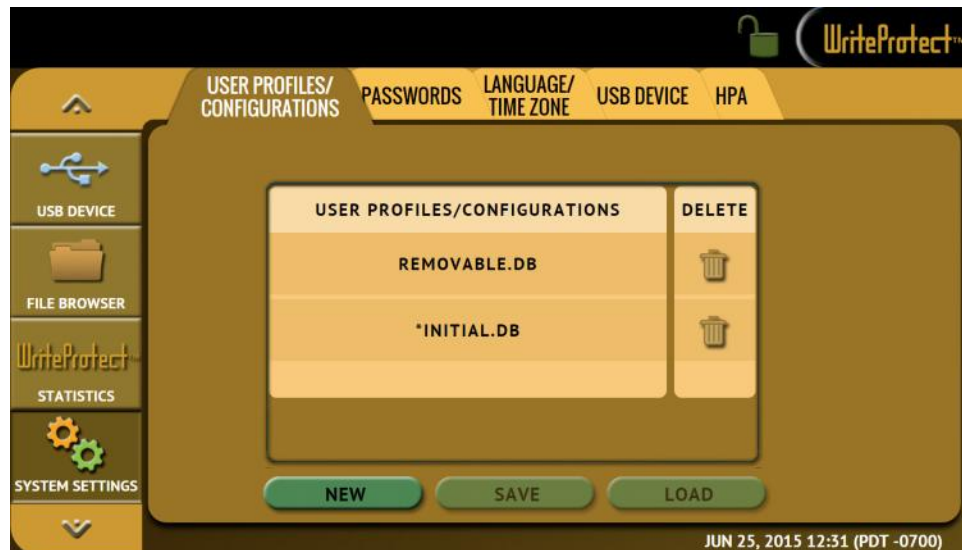
The **System Settings** screen allows users to configure five different settings for the WriteProtect DESKTOP:

- User Profiles/Configurations
- Passwords
- Language/Time Zone
- USB Device
- HPA

### 5.4.1 User Profiles/Configurations

This screen shows all user profiles/configurations for the WriteProtect DESKTOP. There are three options in this screen:

- **New** – Allows the user to create a new profile/configuration name.
- **Save** – Saves the selected profile/configuration.
- **Load** – Loads the selected profile/configuration.



The WriteProtect DESKTOP will boot with the profile/configuration that has an asterisk (\*) next to the name.

Profiles/configurations allow users to create different profiles or configurations. The profile/configuration can then be saved. When a profile/configuration is loaded using the **Load** icon, that configuration will be used during its boot process.

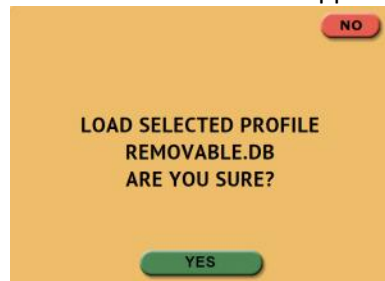
For example, if the user wants to change the Export Type from Fixed Drive to Removable and have that setting be used every time the WriteProtect DESKTOP is turned on, the setting must be changed then a profile/configuration needs to be added, saved, and loaded:

1. Turn the WriteProtect DESKTOP off then back on. This will reset all settings to its default configuration. This is an important step to help ensure only the changes desired will be the changes saved.
2. Go to the **System Settings** tab and in the USB Device tab, set the **Export Type** to 'Removable'.
3. Go to **User Profiles/Configurations** tab and click the **New** icon.
4. Type a name for this profile. For example, removable and click the **OK** icon. The profile name should appear on the screen.


- Click the newly saved profile and click **Save**. A confirmation screen will appear:



- Click the **Yes** icon to save the profile.
- Make sure the profile to be loaded (during the boot process) is highlighted (in this case, REMOVABLE.DB) and click the **Load** icon. A confirmation screen will appear:



- The next time the WriteProtect DESKTOP is turned on it will load the REMOVABLE.DB profile.

To delete a profile, click the  (delete) icon. A confirmation screen will appear. Click the **Yes** icon to delete the selected profile.



It is highly recommended that the WriteProtect DESKTOP is turned off then back on before making any changes to the profiles/configurations. This helps ensure that only the desired changes are saved.



**Do not highlight and save over the INITIAL.DB configuration. This is the default configuration of the WriteProtect DESKTOP and is used to reset the device to the factory default settings.**

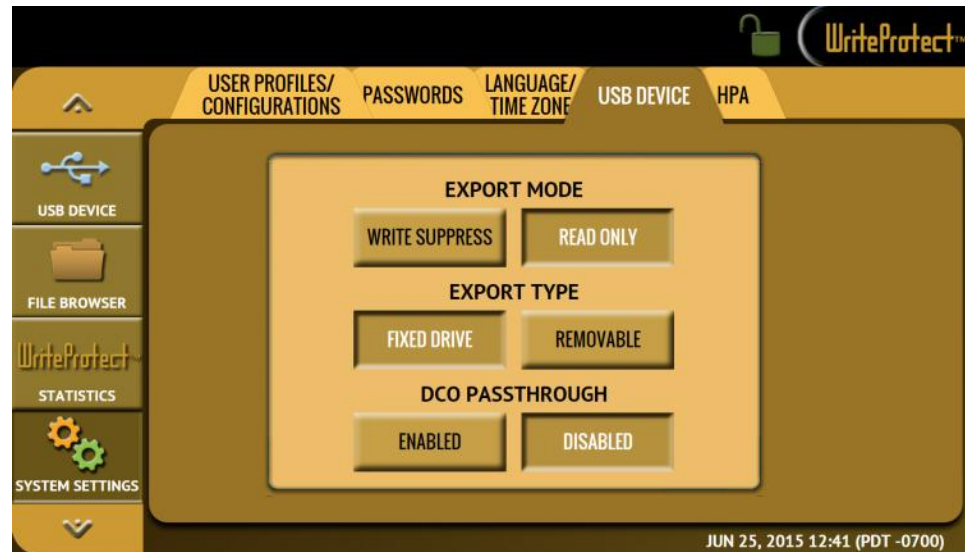
### 5.4.2 Passwords

This section is reserved.

### 5.4.3 Language/Time Zone

This section is reserved.

### 5.4.4 USB Device



This section allows advanced configuration for the WriteProtect DESKTOP.

**EXPORT MODE** – This setting changes the behavior on how the computer's Operating System will interact with the connected drive.

- **WRITE SUPPRESS** – Will make it so that it looks like changes can be made, but no changes will occur. On rare occasions, this setting may need to be used for drives that are not properly detected (for example, Windows may show a notice that the connected drive needs to be formatted).
- **READ ONLY (Default)** – Sets the drive in a Read-Only state. Attempts to alter the contents of the drive will result in error messages or notices that the drive is Read-Only.

**EXPORT TYPE** – This setting changes the behavior on how the computer's Operating System will see the connected drive.

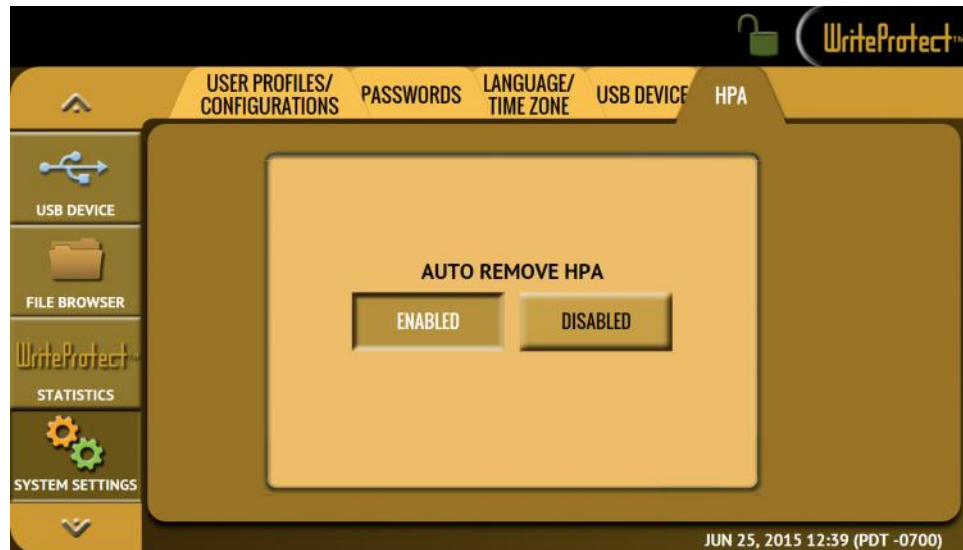
- **FIXED DRIVE (Default)** – Will make it so that the connected computer's Operating System sees the connected drive as a fixed drive (non-removable).
- **REMOVABLE** – The connected computer's Operating System will see the connected drive as a removable disk.

**DCO PASSTHROUGH** – Changes to DCO is persistent and may be permanent. Always proceed with caution when changing the DCO. By default, this is set to

DISABLED, disallowing changes to the DCO. If changes need to be performed to the DCO, set this to ENABLED.

### 5.4.5 HPA

This screen allows the auto-removal of HPA to be enabled or disabled.



## 5.5 Network Settings



There are two tabs in the Network settings screen:

**SERVICES** – The network settings screen allows certain network services to be enabled or disabled.

There are 7 services that can be disabled (enabled by default):

- **SSH** – Disabling this will block Secure Shell (SSH) traffic.
- **Telnet** – Disabling this will block Telnet traffic.
- **HTTP** – Disabling this will block web browser connections to the WriteProtect DESKTOP.
- **CIFS/NETBIOS** – Disabling this will block any CIFS or NETBIOS connection to the WriteProtect DESKTOP.
- **iSCSI** – Disabling this will block iSCSI connections.
- **Iperf** – Disabling this will block Iperf traffic (a network tool to measure bandwidth performance).
- **Ping** – Disabling this will block ping access to the WriteProtect DESKTOP.



Disabling any of the services above will disallow the types of communication controlled by those services. For example, if HTTP is disabled, users will not be able to see the WriteProtect DESKTOP through a web browser over the network.

Please contact your Network or Systems Administrator before changing any of these services.

**HTTP PROXY** – In order for the WriteProtect DESKTOP to be able to update software from a network (over the internet), proxy settings may need to be set if the network utilizes a proxy server. Networks that have a proxy server for internet access will require proxy settings for devices like the WriteProtect DESKTOP to connect to the Internet. This typically includes a server (or IP address), a host port, a username and password.

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## 5.6 Software Updates

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New and improved software will be released from time to time. There are two ways to update the software on the WriteProtect DESKTOP: From the web via a network connection or from a USB drive.

See **Section 6: *Updating the WriteProtect DESTKOP Software*** for step-by-step information on how to update the software and firmware.

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## 5.7 Power Off

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This screen allows the user to remotely turn off the WriteProtect DESKTOP or refresh the Graphical User Interface (GUI).



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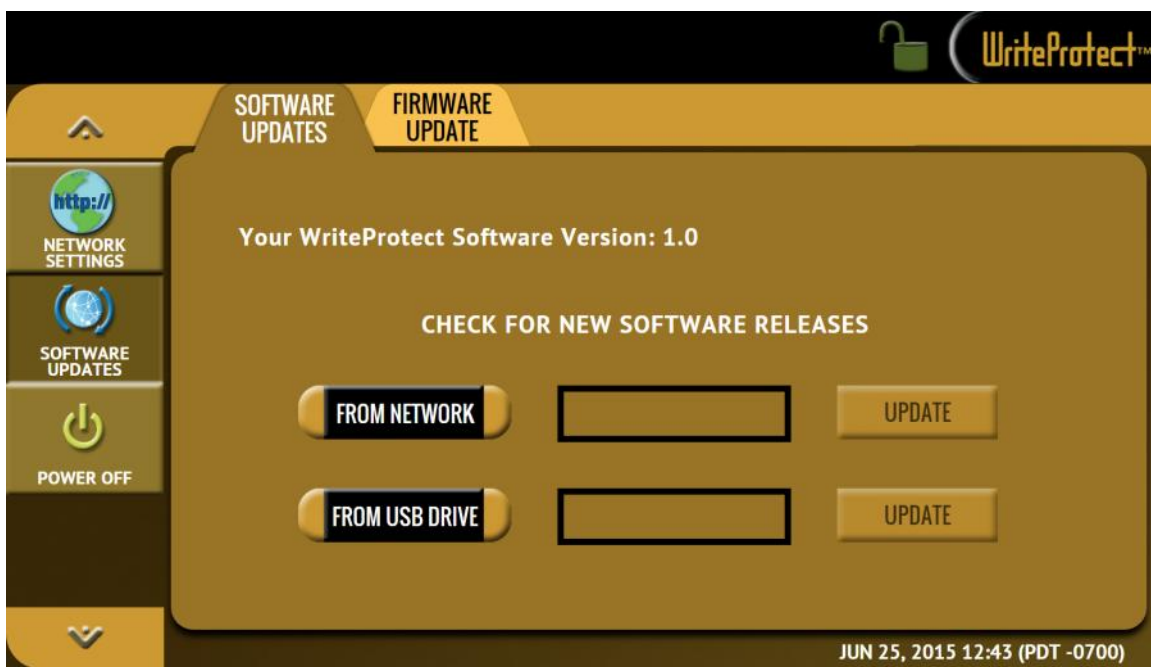
## 6: Updating the WriteProtect DESKTOP Software

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### 6.0 Loading New Software

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New and improved software will be released from time to time and will always be available on the WriteProtect support page at <http://www.logicube.com/knowledge/WriteProtect>.



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### 6.1 Software Loading Instructions

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There are two methods of how to update the WriteProtect software:

- A. **FROM NETWORK** – Via the Internet through a network connection
- B. **FROM USB DRIVE** – Via software file download onto a USB drive flash.



The actual software installation will take about 5 minutes. If **FROM NETWORK** was chosen, the total time can take up to 10 to 20 minutes (or longer) depending on Internet speeds and Internet traffic.



The most up-to-date instructions on updating the software can be found on the WriteProtect support page at:

<http://www.logicube.com/knowledge/WriteProtect>.

### 6.1.1 From Network – Via the web

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1. Connect the WriteProtect to a network with Internet access. Set the proxy settings (IP settings) if necessary.



The WriteProtect is DHCP enabled by default.

2. Using the Remote Connectivity feature (see **Section 4.0** for details on Remote Connectivity), connect to the WriteProtect.
3. From the main menu on the WriteProtect, click the down arrow once then click the **Software Updates** icon. A screen will appear showing the current version of software installed towards the top of the screen.
4. Select **From Network**. The WriteProtect will check for a newer version on the web. If one is found, it will display the version on the screen and the **Update** icon will be selectable.
5. Click the **Update** icon to begin the update. A confirmation screen will appear. Click **Yes** to continue the update.
6. Do not interrupt the update process. It may take several minutes. Once completed, a 'Successful' screen will appear.
7. Reboot the WriteProtect by turning the unit off then back on using the Power button.
8. Remotely connect to the WriteProtect again, then verify the software version at the top of the 'Software Updates' screen.

### 6.1.2 From USB Drive – Via software download

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The latest software can also be downloaded from Logicube's website and be placed onto a USB flash drive.



It is recommended to use an empty USB flash drive.

Download the latest software from the WriteProtect's product support page at <http://www.logicube.com/knowledge/WriteProtect>

1. Download the zip file from the download page.
2. Extract the contents of the downloaded zip file to the root of the USB flash drive (the file must not be in any folder). **Do not** connect the USB

flash drive yet. The WriteProtect will display a message when to connect the USB drive.

3. From the main screen, click the **Software Updates** icon.
4. Select **From USB Drive**. The WriteProtect will prompt for the USB drive to be connected to USB\_S1.
5. Connect the USB drive to the side USB port (the write protected USB port). The WriteProtect will then check for the version of the software on the USB drive and will display that version on the box next to the selected location.
6. Click the Update icon to begin the update. A confirmation screen will appear. Click **Yes** to continue the update. Do not interrupt the update process. It may take several minutes. Once completed, a 'Successful' screen will appear.
7. Reboot the WriteProtect by turning the unit off then back on using the Power button.
8. Remotely connect to the WriteProtect again, then verify the software version at the top of the 'Software Updates' screen.

## 6.2 Firmware Loading Instructions

Some software releases may contain a firmware upgrade. The steps below outline how to check if the WriteProtect requires a firmware upgrade:

1. After the software is updated on the WriteProtect, from the main menu, click the down arrow once then click the **Software Updates** icon.
2. Click the "Firmware Update" tab. One of two screens will appear:
  - a. **FIRMWARE UPGRADE AVAILABLE** – Click the **Update** icon. A message will appear: "FIRMWARE UPDATE COULD TAKE UP TO A FEW MINUTES TO COMPLETE; PLEASE DO NOT INTERRUPT POWER DURING THIS TIME. ON COMPLETION THE UNIT WILL AUTO-RESTART AND CONFIRM THE UPDATE." Click the **OK** icon to start the firmware update process.



When the **OK** icon is clicked, the screen may appear to do nothing. Do not keep clicking the **OK** icon. The firmware update will take no more than 60 seconds. When the firmware update finishes, the WriteProtect will reboot automatically.

- b. **FIRMWARE UPGRADE NOT AVAILABLE** – This message will appear if the device does not require a firmware update. No further action is necessary if this message appears.

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## Technical Support Information

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For further assistance please contact  
Logicube Technical Support at: **(001) 818 700 8488 7am-5pm PST, M-F (excluding US  
legal holidays)**  
or by email to [techsupport@logicube.com](mailto:techsupport@logicube.com)